(f) The districts of Khammam and Warangal have been identified for implementation of the scheme on pilot basis.

Laws to arrest sex discrimination

2938. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to enact any laws to arrest sex discrimination and assault at workplace on women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the alternative measures to curb this vice at the work places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government intends to enact a law to protect women from sexual harassment at work place.

(b) The proposed Bill is based on guidelines issued by the Supreme Court in *Vishakha* case for prevention of sexual harassment at work place. It contains provisions for setting up an Internal Complaints Committee and a Local Complaints Committee to look into the complaints of the aggrieved women and recommend suitable action against the respondent.

(c) Does not arise.

Appointment of Protection Officers

2939. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairperson of National Commission for Women has expressed concern over the delay in appointment of POs (Protection Officers) by States for the implementation of the newly enacted Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005;

(b) if so, what are the States which have not so far, taken action on implementing the law; and

(c) what are the steps the Central Government proposes to take to impress upon the States for its early implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available with the Ministry, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, Pondicherry, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand have not taken any action so far on implementing the law.

(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development has advised all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to take immediate steps to implement the Act, including appointment of Protection Officers and provision of necessary infrastructure, registration of service providers and publicity to Protection Officers, service providers and the provisions of the Act.